

Colin Douglas Meurk, a B.Sc.(Hons.) graduate from the University of Canterbury Botany Department, is presently at the University of Otago where he is completing a long doctorate on the expansive subject of alpine plant ecology. The research encompassed studies of plant productivity and dynamic phytosociology in relation to the topography, soils and climatology of the Otago/Southland rainshadow mountains. Apart from having contributed to a study of the threatened Te Anau lake-shore forests, his ecological passion has focussed on the subantarctic islands. Colin is a socialist-ecologist who believes emotion and politics cannot be divorced from either sport or "pure" research.

Selwyn June studied at Massey University for his M.Sc. on beech forest ecology. He now works for Botany Division, D.S.I.R., and is completing a Ph.D. from the University of Canterbury. His thesis work is also on forest ecology, with emphasis on the interactions between beech forest and podocarp-broadleaf forest in north Westland.

A.G. McFarlane obtained his M.A. on rhyacophilid caddisflies from Canterbury University College in 1938. He later taught for many years, and since his retirement has been investigating the systematics of New Zealand caddisflies. He is presently preparing a book reviewing caddisfly taxonomy, and incorporating illustrated keys to the known species.

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IN 1976

General Committee

President:	Glenn Stewart
Treasurer:	David Jackson
Secretary:	Lisa Langer
Committee:	Ijan Beveridge
	James McWha
	Owen Hughes
	Brent Cowie
	Dave Craib
	Judith Guy

Financial success was the key to the society's activities in 1976. Enthusiasm and hard labour on two afforestation trips to Mount Hutt and countless hours toiling behind the bar at steins by committee members provided the Society with a sound financial backing on which to base activities of a more biological nature.

Social events for the year included numerous steins; one in conjunction with the New Zealand Limnological Society conference; a wine and cheese, and the now traditional dinner and dance. Field trips included: the Rakaia salmon traps, Copland hot pools, Hanmer hot springs (investigations in fresh-water ecology), Lake Sumner, and the Wangapeka track. A bike trip to Isaac's ponds proved a novel innovation in the year's events. Rob Mattlin of the Zoology Department gave a lunch-time lecture and film show on his seal research programme on

the Open Bay Islands. Attempts to stage a seminar on the nuclear power issue were unsuccessful so this unfortunately had to be abandoned.

All in all a successful year for BioSoc. The committee wishes to thank all members who supported activities in 1976.